



Pension Age Disability Payment

Financial support for people of State Pension age who are disabled or have a long-term health condition or terminal illness.

mygov.scot/pensiondisability



Social Security
Scotland

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

What is Pension Age Disability Payment?

Pension Age Disability Payment is for people of State Pension age who have a disability or long-term health condition that means they need help looking after themselves or supervision to stay safe. It is also available to pensioners who are terminally ill. It replaces Attendance Allowance for people in Scotland, previously delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions.

On 21 October 2024 it launched in Argyll & Bute, Highland, Aberdeen City, Orkney and Shetland.

It then became available in 13 more local authority areas on 24 March 2025 and will be available across Scotland from 22 April 2025.

Who can apply?

People can apply for Pension Age Disability Payment if they:

- are of State Pension age
- have a disability, terminal illness or long-term health condition
- need help looking after themselves or supervision to keep them safe

Pension Age Disability Payment is not means-tested. It does not matter if the person applying is working or has savings.

How are the payment rates calculated?

Pension Age Disability Payment is made up of 2 rates – a lower and a higher rate.

The lower rate is awarded if someone meets the criteria due to either their daytime or night-time needs. This is £73.90 a week.

The higher rate is awarded if someone meets the criteria due to both their daytime and night-time needs, or if someone is terminally ill. This is £110.40 a week.

There is no mobility component of Pension Age Disability Payment.

What information will I need to apply?

To make a decision on an application, we need to understand how someone's condition or disability affects their life. We ask people to provide this information in the application form. This should broadly confirm their disability, conditions or needs. It can be a diagnosis if the person has one, but they do not need a diagnosis to apply.

The application will ask you for your personal details such as your name, date of birth and address. It will also ask you about your condition and how it affects you, what support you need and why, and details of any medication, equipment or treatment you need.

What is supporting information?

Supporting information can be provided by someone who knows the client and their conditions, disability or needs. We are asking people to provide one piece of supporting information from a professional, where possible.

Additionally, people can provide supporting information from members of their wider support network, such as friends, family, or unpaid carers. This can be crucial for understanding what support the person needs in their everyday life.

People can still apply without supporting information and we can collect it on their behalf if they ask us to.

If the person applying has a terminal illness, they can apply under special rules.

When will the payment be made?

The first payment will usually be calculated from the date the person phoned Social Security Scotland to start the application process, if they applied by phone and paper form. If applying online, the first payment will usually be calculated from the date the first part of the online application was submitted.

Pension Age Disability Payment is paid every 4 weeks. This payment will be for the previous 4 week period. It will be paid

into the account given as part of the application. If someone is terminally ill, they will be paid weekly, 1 week in advance.

What if you already get Attendance Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions or Adult Disability Payment?

People in Scotland who are currently getting Attendance Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will have their award automatically transferred to Pension Age Disability Payment and do not need to apply. We will write to clients to let them know when this is happening. This will happen in phases, with the first expected to be transferred in early 2025.

People who are getting Adult Disability Payment will stay on Adult Disability Payment and will not transfer to Pension Age Disability Payment when they reach State Pension age.

How do I find out more and apply?

People can find out more and apply online at **mygov.scot/pension-age-disability-payment**. People can also apply in person, over the phone or ask for a paper application form by post by calling us free on **0800 182 2222**.

Further support is available from VoiceAbility independent advocacy service, call free on **0300 303 1660** or visit **www.voiceability.org**

How to contact us?



Call us free on: 0800 182 2222



Text Relay Service: 18001 +0300 244 4000



British Sign Language users: contactscotland-bsl.org



Webchat: chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot



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